



AG DIGEST

Released: Late February 2000

Bi-Monthly

Vol. 00 No. 04

Highlights

Milk Production
Manufactured Dairy Production
Cattle Inventory
Crop Values
Potato Stocks
Poultry Slaughter
Trout Production

The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm>

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in **Pennsylvania** during January 2000 totaled 938 million pounds, 3.1 percent above last year's production. The number of milk cows in the state during the month averaged 617,000 head, 2,000 head less than December's average and unchanged from January 1999. Production per cow averaged 1,520 pounds for the month of January, 40 pounds more than December's estimate of 1,480 pounds, and up 45 pounds per cow from January a year ago.

Pennsylvania's milk production for 1999 totaled 10.93 billion pounds, up 84 million pounds from 1998. Pennsylvania again ranked fourth in milk production for 1999, behind California, Wisconsin, and New York. The average number of milk cows during the year was 616,000, which was 7,000 less than the previous year. Production per cow during 1999 totaled 17,745 pounds, compared to 17,411 pounds during 1998. There were 11,000 farms with milk cows in Pennsylvania in 1999, 200 less than in 1998.

Milk production in the **20 states surveyed** during January 2000 totaled 12.2 billion pounds, 4.7 percent above production in these same states in January 1999. December revised production, at 11.9 billion pounds, was up 4.0 percent from December 1998. The number of milk cows on farms averaged 7.76 million head, 69,000 head more than January 1999, but 6,000 head more than December 1999. Production per cow averaged 1,576 pounds for January, 58 pounds above January 1999. Total U.S. milk production in 1999 was 162.7 billion pounds, 3.4 percent above 1998. This was the third consecutive year of increased milk production and a new record high. Revisions to 1998 production decreased the annual total by less than 0.1 percent. Revised 1999 production was also down by less than 0.1 percent from last month's publication.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Products	Dec 1998	Nov 1999	Dec 1999
000 Lbs.			
PENNSYLVANIA			
Butter	8,706	9,405	10,194
Ice Cream	2,349	3,921	3,485
UNITED STATES			
Butter	106,320	90,358	107,790
Cheese:			
American Types	300,115	287,278	307,254
Swiss	15,610	16,042	16,262
Brick and Muenster	8,065	7,916	7,612
Cream and Neufchatel ...	57,641	64,679	61,631
Blue	3,476	4,500	4,270
Mozzarella	210,868	223,354	225,186
Other Italian	56,283	57,875	58,493
Total Italian Types	267,151	281,229	283,679
All Other	10,037	10,824	10,588
Total	668,489	679,554	698,235
Cottage Cheese, Curd ...	35,556	36,148	34,763
Cottage Cheese, Cream ...	28,704	28,596	26,767
Cottage Cheese, Lowfat ...	27,130	27,143	25,833
NF Dry Milk, Human	110,863	100,607	129,297
000 Gal.			
FROZEN PRODUCTS:			
Ice Cream, Hard	55,458	58,491	55,967
Ice Cream, Lowfat	25,911	25,629	24,593
Ice Cream, Nonfat	2,379	2,055	2,383
Sherbet	3,368	3,457	3,195
MIX FOR PRODUCTS:			
Ice Cream Mix	29,922	32,774	30,346
Ice Cream Mix, Lowfat ...	14,566	14,227	13,427
Ice Cream Mix, Nonfat ...	1,402	1,317	1,365
Sherbet Mix	2,338	2,334	2,185

DAIRY PRODUCTS

United States' butter production was 108 million pounds in December, 1.4 percent above December 1998 and 19.3 percent above November 1999. Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 698 million pounds, 4.4 percent above December 1998 and 2.7 percent above November 1999. American type cheese production totaled 307 million pounds, 2.4 percent above December 1998 and 7.0 percent above November 1999. Cream cottage cheese production was 26.8 million pounds, 6.7 percent below December 1998 and 6.4 percent below November 1999. Lowfat cottage cheese production was 25.8 million pounds, 4.8 percent below December 1998 and 4.8 percent below November 1999. Frozen desserts (comparisons with December 1998): ice cream (hard) - 56.0 million gallons, up 0.9 percent; ice cream (lowfat) - 24.6 million gallons, down 5.1 percent; ice cream (nonfat) - 2.38 million gallons, up 0.2 percent; sherbet (hard) - 3.20 million gallons, down 5.1 percent.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			20 States		
		Jan 1999	Dec 1999	Jan 2000	Jan 1999	Dec 1999	Jan 2000
Milk Cows	Thous.	617	619	617	7,694	7,757	7,763
Milk Per Cow	Lbs.	1,475	1,480	1,520	1,518	1,538	1,576
Milk Production ...	Mil. Lbs.	910	916	938	11,679	11,928	12,232

CROP VALUES

Crop Values includes average prices and value of production for major field crops and for many specialty crops. All prices are marketing year average (MYA) prices which do not include allowances or adjustments for commodities under government loan at the end of the marketing year, commodities forfeited to the Commodity Credit Corporation, or crop deficiency and disaster payments. Estimates for 1997 and 1998 are final. Estimates for 1999 are preliminary.

Each State MYA price is based on sales in the months comprising its marketing year, while United States marketing year averages are based on sales during the standard U.S. marketing year for each crop.

United States MYA prices for most crops are computed by weighting State MYA prices by the estimated quantity sold in each State. The exceptions are for corn, sorghum, oats, barley, wheat, rice, soybeans, flaxseed, sunflower, and upland cotton which are computed by weighting U.S. monthly prices by monthly marketings for the U.S. marketing year. State MYA prices for these monthly

crops are computed by weighting monthly prices by the monthly percentages of total sales during their marketing year.

State and U.S. preliminary 1999 MYA prices for wheat, oats, barley, corn, sorghum, soybeans, flaxseed, peanuts, rice, potatoes, dry edible beans, sunflower, and upland cotton are based on entire month price data through December 1999. Except for cotton and peanuts, allowances are made for the portion of the 1999 crops yet to be marketed during the remainder of the 1999 marketing year. State MYA prices for crops not in the monthly price program are based on annual surveys.

State value of production is computed by multiplying each State price by its production. Value of production for the United States is the sum of State values for all States listed for the crop. Value of production estimates relate to the crop year. These estimates should not be confused with cash receipts, which relate to sales during a calendar year irrespective of the year of production.

SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES, 1997-1999

Crop	Price per Bushel			Value of Production		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
Dollars			(000) Dollars			
CORN FOR GRAIN						
Pennsylvania	2.92	2.48	2.55	289,022	289,044	157,080
United States	2.43	1.94	1.90	22,351,507	18,922,084	17,949,707
WINTER WHEAT						
Pennsylvania	3.37	2.59	2.50	30,667	25,097	25,650
United States	3.23	2.52	2.40	5,948,655	4,740,361	4,059,968
OATS						
Pennsylvania	1.84	1.46	1.55	16,542	12,381	12,361
United States	1.60	1.10	1.10	273,284	199,748	169,873
BARLEY						
Pennsylvania	2.01	1.52	1.40	9,158	7,638	6,958
United States	2.38	1.98	2.05	861,620	686,517	552,941
RYE						
Pennsylvania	3.75	3.50	2.50	1,500	1,733	1,500
United States	3.75	2.49	2.28	30,120	30,404	25,054
SOYBEANS						
Pennsylvania	6.80	4.95	4.50	93,092	78,210	45,675
United States	6.47	4.93	4.75	17,372,628	13,493,891	12,451,149
Price Per Ton - Dollars						
ALL HAY						
Pennsylvania	138.00	114.00	126.00	577,558	456,170	465,360
United States	100.00	84.60	77.00	13,249,825	11,606,734	10,889,893
Price Per Pound						
ALL TOBACCO						
Pennsylvania	1.490	1.101	1.065	25,360	17,301	11,896
United States	1.802	1.828	1.830	3,217,176	2,700,795	2,328,262
Price Per Cwt. - Dollars						
POTATOES						
Pennsylvania	8.20	7.35	7.40	26,019	24,696	22,792
United States	5.64	5.56	5.84	2,622,621	2,633,198	2,782,762

POTATO STOCKS

Total stocks of potatoes stored in **Pennsylvania** on February 1, 2000 were 850,000 cwt., down 6 percent from a year ago. Of this amount, 495,000 cwt. were stored in processor's facilities, 58 percent of the total stocks.

Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Stocks may also include potatoes produced in other states. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes for the past five years averaged 90.8 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.2 percent. Most seed for use the following year is on hand but remains as part of stocks until planted.

The 15 major potato states held 206 million cwt. of potatoes on February 1, 2000, down 2 percent from a year earlier and 3 percent below 1998. Storage accounted for 49 percent of fall production in the storage states, down 1 percent from last year. Current storage held more russets but fewer reds than a year ago. Disappearance of 215 million cwt., is up 1 percent from last year. Processing, at 106 million cwt., is down 3 percent.

CATTLE INVENTORY

Pennsylvania farmers had 1,640,000 cattle and calves on hand on January 1, 2000, 2 percent below the January 1, 1999 level of 1,670,000.

The Keystone State's calf crop for 1999 was 670,000, down 3 percent from 1998. All cows that have calved, at 760,000, was down 1 percent from the previous year. Milk cow inventory, at 619,000, remained unchanged from January 1, 1999. Beef cows totaled 141,000, down 7 percent from last year's number of 151,000. Milk cow replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, at 280,000, remain unchanged from last year's number. Beef cow replacement heifers, at 40,000, were 5 percent lower than last year.

Other heifers 500 pounds and over, at 40,000, were down 17 percent from January 1, 1999. Steers in the same weight category, at 165,000, were down 6 percent from last year. Bulls, at 25,000, were the same as January 1, 1999. All calves under 500 pounds, at 330,000, were unchanged last year.

There were 28,000 operations in Pennsylvania which had cattle, 11,000 operations with milk cows, and 11,300 operations with beef cows during 1999.

Primary data used in making cattle estimates for Pennsylvania and the United States were obtained from a sample of about 50,000 agricultural producers in the United States using probability surveys. Information was collected by mail, telephone and personal interview.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2000 totaled 98.0 million head, down 1 percent from 99.1 million on hand January 1, 1999 and down 2 percent from the 99.7 million two years ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.7 million, were slightly below last year and 1 percent below two years ago. Beef cows, at 33.5 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 1999 and two years ago. Milk cows, at 9.19 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 1999 and slightly below two years ago.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2000, and the changes from January 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, are as follows: all heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.5 million, down 1 percent and down 1 percent; beef replacement heifers, 5.53 million, down slightly and down 4 percent; milk replacement heifers, 3.95 million, down 3 percent and down 1 percent from two years ago; other heifers, 10.0 million, down 1 percent and slightly below two years ago; steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.7 million, down 1 percent and down 3 percent; bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.29 million, up 1 percent and up 1 percent; calves under 500 pounds, 16.8 million, down 3 percent and down 3 percent; all cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 14.0 million, up 6 percent and up 3 percent from two years ago.

The 1999 U.S. calf crop was estimated at 38.7 million, down slightly from the 1998 calf crop and down 1 percent from 1997. Calves born during the first half of the year were estimated at 28.5 million, the same as 1998 but down slightly from 1997.



CATTLE & CALVES: JANUARY 1, 1999-2000

Class	Pennsylvania			United States		
	1999	2000	2000/1999	1999	2000	2000/1999
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Cattle & Calves	1,670	1,640	98	99,115.0	98,048.0	99
All Cows That Have Calved . . .	770	760	99	42,878.4	42,733.8	100
Beef Cows	151	141	93	33,745.4	33,546.0	99
Milk Cows	619	619	100	9,133.0	9,187.8	101
Heifers 500 Pounds & Over						
For Beef Cow Replacement . .	42	40	95	5,535.3	5,529.8	100
For Milk Cow Replacement . .	280	280	100	4,068.8	3,953.7	97
Other Heifers	48	40	83	10,170.1	10,044.8	99
Steers 500 Pounds & Over	175	165	94	16,890.9	16,652.2	99
Bulls 500 Pounds & Over	25	25	100	2,281.1	2,293.7	101
Calves Under 500 Pounds	330	330	100	17,290.4	16,840.0	97
Calf Crop	670	-	-	38,710.4	-	-
Cattle & Calves On Feed	75	75	100	13,219	13,983	106

POULTRY SLAUGHTER

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Dec 1998	Nov 1999	Dec 1999	Dec 1998	Nov 1999	Dec 1999
Young Chickens .	Thous. Hd.	8,488	9,035	8,879	661,113	647,137	655,763
	Thous. Lbs.	43,506	47,521	46,248	3,291,191	3,241,846	3,307,134
Mature Chickens	Thous. Hd.	-	-	-	15,102	12,777	14,656
	Thous. Lbs.	-	-	-	75,764	66,835	75,328
Young Turkeys . .	Thous. Hd.	971	1,201	983	21,886	24,856	21,121
	Thous. Lbs.	22,112	26,531	22,154	543,173	621,238	543,000

TROUT PRODUCTION

Pennsylvania's 54 commercial trout growers sold 1.90 million pounds of trout, valued at \$5.39 million during 1999. In addition to those sold, an estimated \$9.59 million worth of trout were distributed for conservation and recreational purposes throughout the state, primarily by state hatcheries and private fishing clubs. PASS, a joint operation of the National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, compiles data on Pennsylvania food and fiber production as part of a nationwide effort.

Sales of foodsize trout (usually 12 inches or longer) by the state's growers totaled 1.50 million pounds, or 47 percent of the total production sold during the period. This was up 70,000 lbs. or 5 percent from the same period a year ago. Averaging \$2.61 per pound, compared to \$2.48 last year and \$1.08 nationally, the foodsize trout were valued at \$3.94 million. Fee and recreational sales accounted for 49 percent of the foodsize production, and restaurant and retail sales also accounted for 24 percent.

Sales of stocker trout (usually 6 to 12 inches long) by Pennsylvania growers totaled 1,250,000 fish, or 372,000 pounds live weight during the period. This was down 188,000 lbs or 34 percent from the same period a year ago. At an average of \$3.35 a pound, compared to \$3.11 last year and \$2.52 nationally, stocker sales were valued at \$1.25 million, with 83 percent of the volume sold to fee and recreational establishments.

Trout distributed for restoration or conservation purposes, primarily by the state fish commission but also by private fishing clubs, included 26 thousand 12" or longer fish, 5.8 million 6-12" fish, and 1.9 million fingerlings.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service surveyed commercial trout growers in Pennsylvania and 19 other states: Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. Information was collected by mail, telephone and personal interview.

For the 20 selected states, all trout sales during 1999 totaled 62.8 million pounds valued at \$77 million, an increase of 4 percent from 1998. The state of Idaho had almost half the total value. Foodsize trout sales accounted for 96 percent of the pounds sold with 64 percent of that amount purchased by processors. Fee and recreational fishing establishments, at 19 percent, were the next largest outlet for foodsize trout, followed by restaurants and retailers with 11 percent.

Trout distributed for restoration or conservation purposes, primarily by state and federal hatcheries, included 3.78 million 12" or longer fish, 56.6 million 6-12" fish, and 74.3 million fingerlings. The estimated value of fish and eggs distributed totaled 63.4 million dollars.

PENNYSLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9405
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

BULK RATE
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USDA
PERMIT NO. G-38